

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF)
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 Guy Storer et al.)
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 SERIAL NO:)
)
 FILED:)
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 FOR: Multiple Network Access)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Director of Patents and Trademarks
 P.O.Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97-1.98, submitted herewith is Form PTO-1449 along with copies of the seven references identified therein.

US 6324648 (Grantges Jr) describes a computer system which provides access for a client computer over a public network 26 to one of a plurality of destination servers 24 on a private network, through a firewall. A DMZ proxy server 34 is located on the public network side of the firewall, and a Gateway proxy server 40 is located on the private side of the firewall. The DMZ proxy server intercepts messages destined for the destination servers and forwards the intercepted messages through the firewall to the Gateway proxy server. However, there is no mention in this reference of the problem of access to multiple networks through multiple firewalls.

US 5964891 (Caswell et al.) describes a diagnostic system including a diagnostic terminal and a number of diagnostic servers. Each of the diagnostic servers is located within an independently administrated control domain. The diagnostic terminal allows its user to generate a diagnostic request and send it to the diagnostic server. A diagnostic server launches tests or test routines within the respective control domain and passes the diagnostic request to other diagnostic servers so that they can also launch tests within their respective domains. In this way, the entire system can be checked for any malfunctioning components from a single remote source. However, there is no mention in this reference of the problem of access through a firewall.

GB 2349244 (Visage Developments Limited) describes a network of servers and clients in which user access to restricted resources is controlled by a logon procedure that identifies an authorized user to the administering server. However, there is no mention in this reference of the problem of access through a firewall.

US 5960177 (Tanno) describes a remote maintenance system for use with network systems, each of which is equipped with a firewall. However, there is no suggestion in this reference of the use of server computers within the respective networks in the manner claimed in the present claims.

WO 01/55813 (Novell Inc) describes the concept of server based or thin client computing in which the end user's computing device only need to be able to communicate keyboard entries, mouse clicks, or other input signals to the thin client server and to update the end user's display as the application is run. However, there is no mention in this reference of the problem of access through a firewall.

US 6061797 (Jade et al.) describes the use of a firewall to isolate the resources of a computer system or network from objects outside of the system or network. Interface servers A and B operate respectively inside and outside the firewall. Servers A and B are provided with a "tunneling" mechanism for establishing "outside in" connections when requested by "trusted" individuals or objects outside the firewall. However, there is no mention in this reference of the problem of access to multiple networks through multiple firewalls.

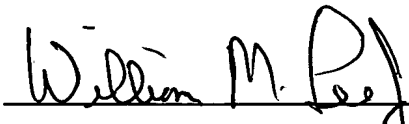
EP 1180885 (Sun Microsystems) describes a method for accessing a local area network 14 from a client 12 through a public network 12, through a clinet proxy means 11 located at the client and a proxy server 13 at the local area network, through a firewall. However, there is no mention in this reference of the problem of access to multiple networks through multiple firewalls.

In summary, it is submitted that the claims of this application are clearly patentable over these references whether considered individually or in combination.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

Date: 11/3/03

Respectfully Submitted



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Application Number | |
| Filing Date | |
| First Named Inventor | Storer |
| Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 920190-95021 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials ¹ | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | | US- 6,324,648 | BI | 11-27-2001 | Grantges | |
| | | US- 5,964,891 | | 10-12-1999 | Caswell | |
| | | US- 5,960,177 | | 09-28-1999 | Tanno | |
| | | US- 6,061,797 | | 05-09-2000 | Jade | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials ¹ | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|----------------|
| | | Office ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | GB | 2349244 | A | 10-25-2000 | Barrett | | |
| | | WO | 01/55813 | A2 | 08-02-2001 | Jreid | | |
| | | EP | 1180885 | A1 | 02-20-2002 | Heilig | | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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